

## STORING AND RETRIEVING THE VISUAL FORM OF DATA

### Abstract of Disclosure

Data representing a visual form of data is received. The data including content  
5 data and format data indicating the manner in which the content data is to be visually  
represented. At least some of the content data is identified in accordance with a  
template, which includes one or more extraction instructions. The retrieved data may  
then be stored in the identified content data. Or, in response to the data, an action may  
be taken such as initiating a process. A template may be applied to several data files,  
10 storing visual forms of data and the information from those files may be stored in a  
database in association with the visual forms of data. A user may input an extraction  
instruction by visually identifying a region of a sample visual form of data and  
selecting a manner to extract the content data in reference to the identified region.